

ing lunch, he told us that he had come to say good-bye. The doctors had exhausted their armamentarium of chemotherapies, and surgery would only delay the inevitable end. Bruce and I went that afternoon to watch the American White Pelicans at a tiny lake nearby; the species was not present in Wisconsin when Bruce was such an avid local birdwatcher. The pelican in myth and folklore represents loyalty and self-sacrifice, a most fitting compliment to Bruce Dale Parfitt.

*Editor's Note.*—This contribution also appears in *Flora of North America Newsletter* 23(2).

### HOWARD L. CLARK, 1941–2009

Kate Clark, wife of Howard L. Clark (Quito, Ecuador), emailed me with sad news that Howard died suddenly on 27 August 2009. Howard was a friend and colleague always willing to help with reviewing manuscripts. “I always will be glad to review papers or anything else for the *exSida*, as I received many of the first issues as an undergraduate (student of John W. Thieret, then at Univ. SW Louisiana, Lafayette) for “free” after making a deal with Lloyd Shinnars to trade my plant collections for *Sida*—I probably never sent enough to be adequate. My first botanical publication was in *Sida*. Yes, that was a few years ago, long before I moved to the amphiscean realm (as John Thieret phrased it).”

I contacted Howard on June 25, 2009, seeking a review of a manuscript submitted to *J. Bot. Res. Inst. Texas*. Of course Howard was more than willing to help and to give of his time (“exceptionally glad” were his words). The resulting correspondence was like rediscovering a close friend from the past. We had a good time catching up and reminiscing about our mutual friend John Thieret (his “professor, mentor, and friend”...and, I might add personally, my mentor and friend). We happily shared stories about Lloyd Shinnars of whom neither one of us met in person. Our friend John Thieret worked closely with Lloyd and *Sida* from the 1960s to early 70s until Lloyd passed away in 1971. Howard said his old copies of *Sida* were safely stored in Atlanta; he even remembered Professor Joe Ewan’s poem to Lloyd Shinnars in response to the first issue of *Sida* (22 Nov 1962).

John W. Thieret (1926–2005) served as Howard’s major professor for his master’s degree in Biology at University of Southwestern Louisiana, Lafayette. Howard studied the Lemnaceae of Louisiana for his M.S., a project Howard started as an undergraduate. Howard and John published together in 1968 *The duckweeds [Lemnaceae] of Minnesota* (*Michigan Bot.* 7:67–76).

Over the last several years Howard had been living and working in Quito, Ecuador. He was working mostly as an ecological consultant (“increasingly, industrial stuff” as Howard put it), but his love was botany. He had set aside for me a copy of a recent botanical publication of his (a Venezuela florula) that he was most proud of.

CLARK, H.[L.], R. LIESNER, P.E. BERRY, A. FERNANDEZ, G. AYMARD, AND P. MAQUIRINO. 2000. Catálogo anotado de la flora del área de San Carlos de Río Negro, Venezuela. *Scientia Guianae* (Caracas) 11:101–333 + 21 color photos. (103 illustrations by B. Manara).

“For 4.5 years (‘79–’81), we (my wife is an ichthyologist, but also a good botanist who worked for Joe Ewan for a year at the Tulane herbarium) lived in San Carlos de Rio Negro, Venezuela, where the soil had a lot of outwash quartz sands from the tepuis and from the Shield, and the flora had a lot of connection to the strange stuff above us on the shield and tepuis. San Carlos is across the Rio Negro from Colombia, about 15 km south of the Rio Casiquiare, and about 60 km north of Brasil. It took many years, but I finally published a florula/checklist (in a pub. more obscure than *Sida*) for there.” This florula is surely a testament to the botanist Howard L. Clark.

I’m so sorry and my heart is saddened to lose a friend and colleague. Thanks, Howard, for all of your contributions to science!—Barney L. Lipscomb, Botanical Research Institute of Texas, Fort Worth, Texas 76102-4025, U.S.A.